

# Montana Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Emblem Ceremony

(Developed by the 1999-2000 Montana FCCLA State Executive Council and used for the first time at the 2000 State Leadership Conference)

The new emblem of our organization is simple but has significant meaning. The ellipse portrays the dynamic and all encompassing strength and presence of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

The letter **F** represents **FAMILY**. Note that the ellipse begins at the letter F which shows that family is the first teacher of truth, love, security and faith.

The second letter—**C**—stands for **CAREER**. As individuals grow and mature, they view people around them engaged in meaningful work that contributes to the needs and wants of our everyday social, intellectual, spiritual, emotional and economic lives.

The desire to provide basic needs for individual and family members and to add pleasure to daily living drives men and women in today's society to exchange their time and talents in return for an income.

Some career and occupational roles are NOT exchanged for a wage, however. The non-paid role of "Parent", for instance, is highly valued by FCCLA members for the contributions parents have made and will continue to make in guiding, nurturing and role modeling for their children. From this we learn that our worth as individuals cannot be determined by the income we make.

Another **C** fills the center of the emblem. This represents **COMMUNITY**. A community means people living in close proximity to one another. These groups of people related by city, county, state or national borders are working together in churches, government agencies, or local action groups for the purpose of setting and achieving goals that benefit each person in the community.

As FCCLA members we recognize the need to contribute our time, ideas and skills to better our community and ourselves.

**L** stands for **LEADERS**. We can each think of peers or our elders who give meaning to the word "leader." Through FCCLA, we have an opportunity to assume leadership roles by participating in National Programs such as STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition), Families First, Career Connection, Financial Fitness and Power of One. Through these projects, we discover and enhance personal skills and develop our potential to lead.

The **A** Stands for **AMERICA**. As the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, we take pride in our citizenship in the one country that nourishes the basic values we consider essential to our organization. The arrow symbolizes our ongoing quest for excellence as Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America.